

## REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the specification has been amended to correct for informalities. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Tsuboi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,043,945) in view of Serrano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,181,500). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection because the cited references taken alone, or in combination, do not disclose or suggest interrupt processing as claimed.

The Examiner indicates that the Tsuboi reference teaches interrupt processing. However, the interrupt processing in the Tsuboi reference is different from the interrupt processing recited in claims 1 and 6. The interrupt processing in the Tsuboi reference is caused by the host computer (see Fig. 8B, and Col. 8, lines 9-22). In addition, the Tsuboi reference does not suggest any method or system relating to "error in track following information." *2 Serrano*

In contrast, interrupt processing as recited in the present invention is caused by detecting an error in the track following information (servo information). Moreover, as described in pages 3 and 4 of the specification of the present invention as related art, defect information is detected while following the track 18 according to the servo information 16, and when an error is detected in servo information, format processing is aborted in the conventional technique. Thus, since the Tsuboi reference does not disclose or suggest "error in track following information", format processing must be aborted when an error is detected in the servo information.

*not  
aborted  
as  
suggested*

Although the Serrano reference discloses an apparatus that detects servo error and rewrites servo, the Serrano reference does not relate to the present invention because it does not restart format processing when a servo error is detected. Even if the Serrano reference were combined with the Tsuboi reference, and the system of the Tsuboi reference would detect a servo error, then format processing would merely be aborted. After that, servo would be rewritten at the position of the error, and then format processing would start from the beginning. In the present invention, formatting is not aborted when servo error is detected. The area with the error is replaced and formatting is restarted. Col. 11

Since the cited references taken alone, or in combination, do not disclose or suggest an information storage device or defect information management method in an information storage device as recited in claims 1 and 6, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 and 6.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over to Tsuboi et al. in view of Serrano et al., and further in view of Nemazie (U.S. Patent No. 6,025,966). Claims 2-5 and 7-10 depend from claim 1 or claim 6, respectfully, and are considered allowable for the reasons stated with respect to claims 1 and 6 above, and based on their chain of dependency.

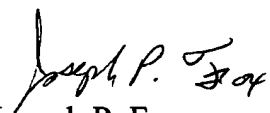
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment, captioned **Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.**

For all of the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicant believes that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

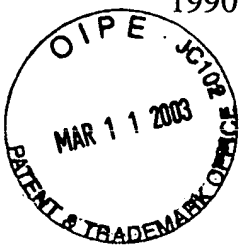
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By   
Joseph P. Fox  
Registration No. 41,760

March 4, 2003

300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: (312) 360-0080  
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315  
Customer No. 24978

K:\1990\65056\Amendment B.doc



**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing a conventional magnetic disk device. The conventional magnetic disk device 1 mainly includes a magnetic disk 2, a spindle motor 3, a magnetic head 4, a head arm 5, a VCM (voice coil motor) 6, rotation axes 7, 8, a driver 9, a micro control unit (MCU) 10, a flash ROM 11, a hard disk controller (HDC) 12, an interface circuit (I/F) 12~~13~~, a buffer (DRAM) 14 and a read/write channel 15.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The HDC 12 controls the magnetic disk 2 based on information from the interface. The interface circuit 13 is connected to the HDC 12 which captures information from the interface 13. The buffer 14 temporarily stores information such as processing results.

**RECEIVED**

MAR 13 2003

Technology Center 2600

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 33, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The magnetic disk 2 is formatted according to a predetermined format for writing/reading information. The format processing for the magnetic disk 2 will be described ~~in the following~~below.